THE WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT

Published by the East London Federation of the Suffragettes.

Edited by SYLVIA PANKHURST.

No. 35. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH, 1914. PRICE ONE HALFPENNY.

All donations in money or kind should be addressed to the Financial Secretary of the E.L.F.S. :— Miss N. L. Smyth, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS.

Sunday, Nov. 15th, 3 p.m.—Victoria Park—Miss M. Wright, Miss Phillips.
8 p.m.—The Women's Hall—Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, Miss Alison Neilans, Mrs. Drake.
Monday, Nov. 16th, 3 p.m.—Bow, Women's Hall—Mrs. Dove Wilcox.
8 p.m.—"Peacock," Freemason's Road—Mrs. Walker.
8 p.m.—Salmon Lane, Poplar—Miss Feek.
8.30 p.m.—Lesbia Road—Miss Phillips.
Tuesday, Nov. 17th, 2.30 p.m.—30 Churchill Road (indoors)—Mrs. Walker.
7.30 p.m.—Limehouse—Burdett Rd—Mrs. Davies.
8 p.m.—Tidal Basin, 14 Butcher's Rd—Miss Phillips.
8 p.m.—Poplar Women's Hall, Railway St.—Dr. Barbara Tchaykovsky.
8 p.m.—Bromley—St. Leonard's House—Miss Sylvia Pankhurst.
Wednesday, Nov. 18th, 8 p.m.—Chrisp St.—Mrs. Walker.
Thursday, Nov. 19th, 3 p.m.—Deacon's Vestry—Mrs. Dove-Wilcox.
8 p.m.—Knapp Rd.—Miss Rickards.
8 p.m.—124 Barking Road—Mrs. Drake.
Friday, Nov. 20th, 3 p.m.—Poplar Women's Hall—Miss Ada Wright.
8 p.m.—Poplar, Piggott Street—Mrs. Walker.
8 p.m.—Canning Town—Beckton Rd—Miss Harbutt.

To reach Old Ford Road take an Old Ford 'bus (No. 8), which goes via the Marble Arch, Oxford St., the Bank and Liverpool St., or book to Old Ford Station on the North London Railway.

East London Federation of the Suffragettes.
LIMEHOUSE BRANCH.

SOCIAL GATHERING

IN

Upper Hall, Congregational Church, Burdett Rd
ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26th, at 7.30 p.m.

REFRESHMENTS. ADMISSION THREEPENCE.
Tickets on Sale at 400 Old Ford Road; Women's Hall, Railway Street; or at Mrs. CONNELLS, 82 Tidoers Road, Burdett Road.

The E.L.F.S. Annual Conference will be held on Monday, January 4th, for the re-election of officers and discussion of Federation business and public questions, etc. All Members must keep that evening free.—E. Sylvia Pankhurst.

The next General Meeting of the E.L.F.S. will be held on Nov. 27th. Important business, including a project for co-operative buying to be discussed.

THE CHILDREN'S PARTIES.

The E.L.F.S. is arranging two Children's Parties in the New Year, one to be held in Bow Baths, on Saturday, January 2nd, and one in Poplar Town Hall, early in January. Promises of refreshments and presents for the children should be sent to Miss Mackay, 400 Old Ford Rd., Bow, E.

THE MEMBERS' NEW YEAR PARTY.

The Members' New Year Party will be held in Bow Baths, on the evening of January 2nd. Volunteers for the entertainment and promises of contributions towards the refreshments should write to Miss Smyth, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

The Members' monthly gathering will be held as usual on the last Saturday in the month. Volunteers for the November concert should write to Miss N. L. Smyth, at 400 Old Ford Rd., Bow, E. Friends who will help to provide refreshments should write to Mrs. McCheyne, 55 Fairfield Rd., Bow, E.

Christmas Puddings can be ordered at 8d. and 1s. per lb. from Miss Morgan Brown at 400 Old Ford Road, or Mrs. Richmond, 20 Railway Street, Poplar. East London friends may pay for these in weekly instalments, if they wish.

CLOTHING STALLS.

Clothing stalls, where new and second-hand clothes may be bought at very low prices, are open at 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, on Fridays and Saturdays, at 20 Railway Street, Poplar on Saturday mornings, and at 53 St. Leonard Street on Fridays and Saturdays. We shall be glad if friends can send us any clothes for these stalls. Boots and shoes are very urgently needed.

All parcels should be sent to 400 Old Ford Road, E., addressed to Miss N. L. Smyth.

GARMENT MAKING.

The East London Federation undertakes the making of women's and children's underclothing, dresses, overalls, and all sorts of garments.

OUR TOY FACTORY.

The East London Federation has started a toy factory which will be run on co-operative lines as soon as it is self supporting.

Our toys are on show at 400 Old Ford Road.

Mr. Walter Crane has kindly sent some prints of his drawings for Labour Cartoons and children's books to be made into jig-saw puzzles.

We urgently need some machinery, in order to be able to do our work more cheaply and effectively. A few hundred pounds of capital just now would be of immense value in building up our toy, garment and bootmaking industries.

DOES SHE DESERVE THE VOTE ?

BABIES' OUTFITS.

We lend necessitous mothers outfits for their babies, for the first months.

With the money subscribed for finding employment, we are getting baby clothes made, and paying unemployed women for making these things. Those who would give money and materials for making baby clothes would help in one of the best possible ways. Gifts of baby clothes can be made good use of, also nightdresses, quilts, blankets and sheets for the mothers. Even old sheets can be cut up for babies' napkins.

Each baby's outfit should consist of:—

FOR BABY.

Four gowns, three flannel barrows, two flannel bands, twelve napkins, three vests and a cot blanket.

FOR MOTHER.

Two night gowns, a woollen shawl, three towels, two sheets and one pair pillowcases.

MOTHERS AND BABIES.

Nurse Hebbes has prepared us a chart for infant feeding, and this is published as a free leaflet. Mothers who wish to have it can obtain it at any of our centres.

Our milk bill increases weekly. We urgently need subscriptions towards it; also gifts of:—

EGGS.

For invalids and babies who are too ill to digest milk, and are given the white of egg beaten up in water.

ARROWROOT, BARLEY & RICE. BORACIC POWDER, BORACIC LINT, VASELINE, ZINC OINTMENT & BANDAGES, COD LIVER OIL & MALT.

THE NURSERY.

The nursery at Norman House, 45 Norman Road, is now open.

The charge for a child's day in the nursery from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., including meals, is 3d.

Volunteers are needed to help in taking the babies out.

VIDA GOLDSTEIN'S CONTEST FOR AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENT.

WOMAN VOTER CENSORED.

Miss Vida Goldstein, of the Women's Political Association of Australia, has just fought her fourth election contest for the Commonwealth Parliament of Australia. In 1903 she sat as a candidate for the Senate, polling 51,497 votes in the whole state of Victoria. In 1910 she again sat for the Senate and polled 53,683 votes. Finding that as a non-party candidate she was heavily handicapped, she decided to fight her third contest for the House of Representatives, which corresponds to our House of Commons, instead of the Senate, which corresponds to our House of Lords, in order that she might have a smaller constituency. She selected the constituency of Kooyong, because, although it was considered the most re-actionary constituency in Victoria, she had polled a larger number of votes there in 1910 than in any other place; also, because, there were more women than men in Kooyong. In 1913 she polled 11,540 votes in Kooyong, as against 18,777 votes recorded for Sir Robert Best, who has sat in the Commonwealth Parliament since its inception. This year Miss Goldstein has had to fight a three-cornered contest and the result is as follows: Sir Robert Best, fusion, 18,545; Vida Goldstein, non-party, 10,264; Edward Terry, independent, 2,420; spoilt voting papers, 636; majority for Sir Robert Best, 5,861. Miss Goldstein has thus polled a smaller number of votes than in the last election, the reasons given being that Mr. Terry, as a democratic candidate, drew more votes from her than he did from Sir Robert Best: because of the unfair disfranchisement of a large number of working women and men; and because of the Women's Political Association's campaign, in which Miss Goldstein took a leading part, against compulsory military training and war.

Whilst the election was in progress the Women's Political Association passed through most strenuous and unusual experiences. As soon as war broke out the Association passed a resolution regretting that the statesmanship of nations had failed

(*Continued on page 138, col. 3.*)

PRICE LIST OF OUR TOYS.

	EACH.
Flat Wooden Toys.	
Pigs	6d.
Brown, Blue and Green Birds	8d.
Robins	8d.
Dogs	8d.
Poodles	1s. 0d.
Elephants	1s. 0d.
Kingfishers	1s. 6d.
Boy Scouts	1s. 6d.
Girl Scouts	1s. 6d.
Fairies	1s. 6d.
Squirrels	1s. 6d.
"British Baby" Dolls.	
Life Size ...	5s. 6d. each.
Smaller size ...	3s. 6d. „
"Jap" Baby Dolls.	
Life size ...	7s. 6d. each.
Smaller size ...	3s. 6d. „
English Wax-headed Dolls	
10 (Ready soon).	4s. 0d. each.
English China-headed Dolls ...	5s. 0d. each.
Dolls' Furniture.	
Large (velvet)	2s. 6d.
„ (cloth)	2s. 0d.
Small (velvet)	1s. 6d.
„ (cloth)	1s. 0d.
Engines (wooden).	From 2d. each.
Wooden Horses.	From 2d. each.
Wheelbarrows.	From 1s. 6d. each.

WOMEN! JOIN THE

East London Federation of the Suffragettes —

WE NEED YOU!

I wish to become a member of the EAST LONDON FEDERATION OF THE SUFFRAGETTES.

Name .....

Address .....

I enclose 1½d. to cover membership and postage.

I enclose 4s. 4d. for a year's WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT.

Name .....

Address .....

The

Woman's Dreadnought.

Published by the East London Federation of the Suffragettes,

321 ROMAN ROAD, BOW, E.

Telephone EAST 422.

Agents:—INTERNATIONAL SUFFRAGE SHOP, 11 Adam St., Strand, W.C.; LONDON & SUBURBAN PUBLISHING Co., St. Bride's Churchyard, E.C.; Messrs. HORACE MARSHALL & Co., Temple Avenue, E.C.

Can be obtained at the Bookstalls of Messrs. W. H. SMITH and SONS, and Messrs. WILLING.

Annual Subscription: Post free, 4s. 4d.

No. 35.—Saturday, Nov. 14th, 1914.

Bravely and willingly we bear our share of the World's burdens. Why, then, deny us the right to Vote, which would dignify our labour and increase our Power of Service.

INSULTS TO SOLDIERS' WIVES AND MOTHERS.

Last week it was announced that public-houses were to be closed to women, though to men they are to remain open as before. To the average woman, though she may be disgusted by the smug impertinence of such an order to the more temperate sex, from the less temperate one, this regulation makes little practical difference. The average woman never thinks of spending her mornings in public-houses. The working woman, whether she be a mother at home or a wage-earner in a factory, is much too fully occupied in any case, and the leisured woman, even when she has time to idle, has other ways of life. So the order for closing public-houses to women only will excite but little indignation, although almost every woman pronounces it unjust.

But on Saturday was issued another order which is gravely dangerous and offensive, and is arousing very deep and bitter indignation.

It is an order to place families of soldiers under police supervision.

The order comes in the form of a memorandum from the Army Council, forwarded by the Home Office with a covering letter to Chief Constables, which says:—

I am directed by the Secretary of State to say that the Army Council desire to have the assistance of the police in the measures which are being taken to provide for the withholding of separation allowances, payable to wives or dependents of soldiers, in the event of serious misconduct on the part of the recipient. . . . In addition to furnishing reports on the special cases in which complaints are referred to them, the police should, as opportunity offers, endeavour to check misconduct before it reaches a point at which it may become subject to official notice, by warning the offenders that its continuance will involve the stoppage of their allowances.

The War Office memorandum is headed:—

CESSATION OF SEPARATION ALLOWANCES AND OF ALLOTMENTS OF PAY TO THE UNWORTHY.

It explains that separation allowances will be discontinued in cases of serious misconduct, immorality, conviction of criminal charges, and neglect of children.

The memorandum details the procedure to be followed in which the complaint of "unworthiness" comes from, (1) the soldier, (2) his commanding officer, (3) a local committee, (4) other sources.

It is, unfortunately, quite clear that all this means, that there is to be an attempt to put the dependents of the soldiers and sailors under police supervision, and we must protest against this attempt with all the power and earnestness which we possess.

The wives of the soldiers and sailors differ in no way from other women, except that, just now, they are all of them facing an agony of dangerous suspense.

They are drawn from every section of society, but, because the majority of our people are working people so too the majority of soldiers' wives are sprung from the working class. Their strengths and virtues, their faults and failings are those of the majority of other women. Amongst every large body of faulty human beings, some will be found to do things which the majority of the others dislike or disapprove, and naturally some of these will be found too amongst the vast number of soldiers' wives. But there is no shadow of reason or excuse for this attempt to place soldiers' wives under police supervision. If any of these women break the ordinary law of the land and do things which are prohibited to others, ample means exist for checking them and bringing them to punishment; and if they do not break the law and do not do the things that are prohibited to others, it is unjust that they should be either punished or checked.

If their houses are unclean, the sanitary inspectors can deal with them, as with others, if their children are neglected, the law and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children—reinforced by the neighbours—will bring them to book. If their children fail to go to school, the school attendance officers will have them punished. The police will arrest them, as they do others, and under the same conditions, if they get drunk or steal. If the Government is to have further power to compel persons to sobriety, thrift and the care of home and children, those powers must be extended to embrace every individual in the State. It is intolerable that they should be enforced against a special class of women, because those women's husbands chance to be *earning* wages from the State.

Apart from the monstrous injustice of erecting a special code of conduct and morals to be forcibly rivitted upon the soldiers' wives, we must protest very specially also against the proposal to place these our country women under the supervision of the police. The police force is a body of men at least as fallible as these women whom it is proposed that they should supervise and control. The majority of them are probably very worthy men, still, in spite of the fact that their occupation brings them into perpetual contact with the more sordid side of life, and gives them a power over other human beings which is dangerous to the average faulty human character.

But it is impolitic to give any body of men large powers over the lives and surroundings of women, and there are some members of the force in whom those powers will produce peculiarly objectionable results. The management and traditions of the police force tend to shield the objectionable conduct of such men.

This was clearly illustrated by the case of Rex v. Wetherall. In this case a policeman was prosecuted for assaulting a little girl of fourteen, with whose parents he had lodged. The defence was that the crime was committed, not by Wetherall, but by another police constable who was also a lodger in the house, and Wetherall was acquitted.

Appeals for the dismissal of the two constables, who went into the witness box and swore that they knew of the immoral relations of one of their fellow constables with this child and yet did not report the matter, were made in vain. The child victim nearly lost her life in the serious illness which resulted, her father went out of his mind and died as an outcome of the affair; but the policemen remained members of the force, and they will be amongst those who will supervise and control the mothers, the wives and the little daughters of the soldiers at the front.

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

In 1795, when France and England went to war, the Manchester Marine Corps wore cockades of red, blue and white. These were made by a Miss Chesshyres at 2s. a piece. That was before the time of sweating by Army contractors.

(continued from front page.)

to maintain peace, and asking the President of the International Women's Suffrage Alliance to call upon women of all afiliated countries to demand peace and a submission of the points in dispute to arbitration.

In the W.P.A.'s organ, *The Woman Voter*, articles were published against war, the arguments being based on the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount. On September 3rd the editorial office received a communication from the military censor, stating that the paper contained "matter that should not have been published," and enclosing a copy of instruction to the Press. These instructions referred only to cables, cargoes, movements of war ships and troops, sensational reports, "seditious, disloyal or contemptuous matter." The proprietors of *The Woman Voter* were asked to give an assurance that they would loyally carry out these instructions. They replied to the censor that they believed they had not violated the instructions in any way, and asked if it were not permissable to plead for love and peace to reign between nations instead of hatred and bloodshed, and for the application of the teaching of Christianity to the contest. No written answer was received to this letter, but one of the Censors visited the offices and tried to convert the W.P.A., stating that nothing not "calculated to stimulate military enthusiasm" must be published. The Censor withdrew, expressing a hope that an assurance on these lines would be given. After he left the W.P.A. wrote giving an assurance not to transgress the published instructions of the Censor that had been sent to them.

Next morning when the editorial staff arrived at the printers to make up the week's *Woman Voter*, they found an armed guard with fixed bayonets, a commanding officer in mufti, and a detective, at the door. They were told that as they had not sent an assurance to the Censor, *The Woman Voter* was to be seized. The proprietors of *The Woman Voter* replied that they had given an assurance. Just then a telephone message came from the Censor's Office saying that the letter was satisfactory, and that the guard would be withdrawn. Shortly afterwards another telephone message came from the Censor asking what would be published in the current issue of *The Woman Voter*. The editor replied, "The correspondence which has been passing between us." The censor said that he could not permit this, and the armed guard returned.

The late Government had just been overwhelmingly defeated at the polls and the new Government was not yet in office, so it was not possible to make an appeal in that direction. The W.P.A. refused to give any undertaking, and decided that the paper must be set up with the correspondence with the Censor as first intended. As soon as the paper came off the machines, a police officer, who had stationed himself beside them, ordered it to be submitted to the Censor.

The Business Manager with one of the armed guard beside her then drove to the Censor's Office at the G.P.O. The Censor ruled out the correspondence with himself, an "Appeal to Mother's," and a quotation from Ruskin to the effect that as women did not put an end to war they were responsible for it. The proprietors of *The Woman Voter* were asked to substitute other matter for the blank spaces, but they refused to do so. The Censor did not like the blank spaces, but he was unable to censor them; he had to content himself with refusing to allow the word "Censored" to be printed across them. The type containing the censored matter was destroyed by the armed guard, who also tore the proofs into tiny pieces so that there could be no chance of their being circulated.

The next week an account of what had taken place was again censored and another blank space appeared. The *Labour Call*, which published an account of the incident, was remonstrated with for having done so. On the week following the Censor did not interfere.

On September 25th a deputation from the W.P.A. waited upon the Australian Prime Minister, who announced that the action of the Censor had been irregular, and that it was not intended to strike at papers carrying on peace propaganda.

"SANCTITY OF WAR"

Great armies are moved about like flocks of sheep by butchers, and their units are destined to fall upon some field of combat with heads split open by sabre strokes, or hearts pierced by bullets. They are composed of young men, able to work, to produce, to be of use. Their fathers are old and poor. Their mothers for twenty years have loved and cherished them as mothers alone are capable of loving and cherishing, perhaps to learn, after six months or a year, that their boys, their darling children for whom they have sacrificed so much and whom they have so tenderly reared, have been thrown like dogs into a ditch, where they lie with bowels burst asunder after having been trodden upon and mutilated or made into a shapeless mass of flesh by some cavalry charge.

"Why," asks the unfortunate mother, "why have they murdered my child, my darling son, my only hope, my life itself?" She does not understand, but the answer is "War!" In other words, fighting, killing, cutting off of heads, slaughter . . . .

Yes . . . . and at the present time, in our own epoch, in spite of our whole civilisation of science, in spite of the increased diffusion of science, in spite of all the philosophy which human genius can evolve, there yet exist schools for teaching the slaughter of human beings, how to kill scientifically and easily a mass of men, poor men, unfortunate, innocent, charged with the burden of families who need their help and sustenance. But the most amazing thing is that no people have, up to the present time, revolted against such infamies.

Ah! we live under the weight of the abominable ancient customs, the faulty prejudices, the ferocious ideas, which were the characteristics of our barbarous ancestors.

The Baby Lovers' Club has made 80 garments in a month which it has generously sent to us for our East London babies.

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED.

GENERAL FUND.

Mrs. Savill 2.0, Misses Lagsding, Dent, and Morley 5.0, per Mr. Cullen 1.6, Mrs. Getson 5.0.

FOR MILK AND GENERAL DISTRESS: Miss Hannah Beddow 4.0.0, Mrs. Baillie Weaver 10.0, Miss Baynes 5.0, Miss G. N. Hadley 1.0, Miss Marie Renthe (monthly) 4.0, Mrs. Renthe 2.0, Mrs Graham 1.6, Mrs. Alexander 1.0.0, Anon. 6.0.0, Miss Porter 1.0, Mrs. D. L. Dubock 2.6, Mrs. R. A. Billinghurst 1.0.0, Miss E. S. Court 2.0.0, per Mrs. Moncrieff 12.0, Misses Bellamy and Saunderson 5.6, Children of Hazelwood Lane School 1.0, Mrs. Rintoul 1.0, Miss Yeoman (weekly) 10.0, Mrs. Usherwood 10.0, Misses Barrowman 5.0, T. Stenhouse, Esq. 1.0.0, Mrs. Youngerman 2.0, Mr. Copeland 1.0, "A little child in Hyde Park" 0.3, Miss Jones (weekly) 2.0, Mrs. A. B. Hughes 5.0, Lady Lely 1.0.0, F. S. 2.0, Mr. and Mrs. Coller 5.0, per Miss O. R. Simes 5.0, and one dollar, Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds 5.0, Miss Barwell 1.0.0, Mrs. Reinold (monthly) 10.0, Anon. 10.0.0, Miss Eveline Wright 5.0.0, Miss P. Anderson 1.0.0, Beachcomber 10.0, per Mrs. Rawlings, staff of Monteith Road School 1.5.0, Collection Brotherhood Church 6.0.0, Mrs. Richmond (weekly) 5.0, Misses Mann 10.0, Miss Bitten 3.8, T. E. Wood, Esq., 5.0, Members A. S. L. E. & F. Bow Branch 3.10. Collected:—Miss Watts 0.6, Mrs. Watkins 2.4, Miss Bennett 18.0½d.

CLOTHES—Mrs. Isherwood, Miss E. M. Brown, Miss M. E. Baynes, The Roaring River Suffrage Association, Mrs. Dewsnap, Mrs. and Miss Fairbairn, Miss Effie Hogg, Miss O'Brien, Miss Eva Chapman, Mrs. Gibson, Miss Douglas, Miss Canning, Miss Lowy, Mrs. Bayliss, Miss Douglas.

PER MRS. LEHMANN—Mrs. Hawkins 6 lbs. macaroni, Mrs. Clutterbuck eiderdown and clothes, Miss Moore sheets, etc., Mrs. Lehmann clothes, etc., Mrs. Stephens clothes.

PER BABY LOVER'S CLUB—Over 80 new baby garments, sugar, barley, rice and clothes.

BABY CLOTHES—Mrs. Johnson.

TOYS AND BOOKS—Miss G. A. Lees.

APPLES—Mrs. M. H. Graham.

EGGS—Miss A. L. Durham.

OUR DEMANDS FOR THE NEW SESSION.

The *Daily Citizen* continues its campaign for—

£1 a week for the widow of every soldier killed in the war.

£1 a week for the mother dependent on every soldier or sailor killed in the war.

£1 a week for the wife of every soldier or sailor engaged in fighting.

£1 a week for every soldier or sailor maimed by fighting.

This is the best thing the *Daily Citizen* has ever done (we ourselves have had to disagree with it frequently on other matters) and we are glad to see that the *Citizen* has now added to its other demands which the WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT put forward from the first, namely: 5s. a week for every child dependent on the soldiers and sailors who may be fighting or maimed or killed.

Mr. Asquith has now promised a day for these questions to be discussed, and in the meantime the Government has issued a white paper covering its own latest regulations.

This white paper sets forth at last the promised new Pension Scheme.

The old Pension Scheme, initiated at the time of the Boer War, was 5s. for a soldier's widow and 1s. a week for each of his children.

The new scheme provides that:—

1. Pensions for the widows and children of Seamen, Marines and Soldiers who in the present war are killed whilst in the performance of naval or military duty, who die of wounds or injuries received in the performance of such duty within seven years after the receipt of the wound or injury, or who die of disease, medically certified as contracted or commencing while on active service, within seven years of their removal from duty on account of such disease:—

Navy		Class (*a*)		Class (*b*)		Class (*c*)		Class (*d*)	—
Army		Class V.		Class IV.		Class III.		Class II.	Class I.
		s.	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*
Widow with four children	Subject to increase in cases of necessity	20	0	20	6	21	0	21	6	22	6
,, with three children		17	6	18	0	18	6	19	0	20	0
,, with two children		15	0	15	6	16	0	16	6	17	6
,, with one child		12	6	13	0	13	6	14	0	15	0
,, without children		7	6	8	0	8	6	9	0	10	0
Additional for each child in excess of four ...		2	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	2	0

The above classes are as follows:—

NAVY—

Class (*a*).—All naval ratings below those described in (*b*) and Marines below corporals.

Class (*b*).—Second Class Petty Officers, leading rates with over three years' service as such and passed for Petty Officers, and Corporals of Marines.

Class (*c*).—First Class Petty Officers, Petty Officers (N.S.) and Sergeants of Marines.

Class (*d*).—Chief Petty Officers and Colour and Staff Sergeants of Marines.

ARMY—

Class V.—Private, &c.

Class IV.—Corporal, &c.

Class III.—Sergeant, &c.

Class II.—Colour Sergeant, &c.

Class I.—Quartermaster Sergeant, &c.

3. The payments for children will be continued in the case of girls until the age of 16, and in the case of boys, until the age of 14. If the boy attends at a State-aided school (not being an evening school), the pension will be continued until he leaves school, up to the age of 16. In the case of children unable to maintain themselves, owing to mental or physical infirmity, payments may be continued up to 21.

4. In the case of motherless children the payment will be 5s. a week for each of the first three children, and 4s. a week for each child in excess of three, under the same conditions as above.

5. The pension of a widow will cease upon her re-marriage. But she will be eligible for a gratuity of an amount equal to two years' payment of the pension, viz.:—

NAVY.	ARMY.	£	s.	d.
Class (*a*)	Class V.	39	0	0
,, (*b*)	,, IV.	41	12	0
,, (*c*)	,, III.	44	4	0
,, (*d*)	,, II.	46	16	0
	,, I.	52	0	0

The gratuity in each case will be given either in a lump sum or by instalments according to conditions laid down by Regulations.

All payments will be made weekly.

Children's payments are to continue after the mother's re-marriage. The Separation Allowances which were being paid to the widow and children before the soldier's death will be continued for 26 weeks. If an Allotment was in force at the time, the Allotment also will be continued for the same period.

This regulation is unsatisfactory, for many may not yet have succeeded in getting their allowances before the men were killed. The fact that the dependents were entitled to the pension should be enough. The Admiralty and War Office may grant additional pensions in cases of special necessity after considering the recommendations of the Old Age Pensions' Committee. "For example," says the white paper, "in the case of a private's widow who is incapacitated for work the pension may be increased to 12s. 6d." Why not to a £1? A woman especially if she is an invalid cannot live on 12s. 6d. a week.

Two sinister paragraphs read as follows:—

Dependents of unmarried men will continue for 26 weeks after the notification of death to receive the amount which was paid to them as Separation Allowance and Allotment.

After that:—

Gratuities or Allowances to dependents of unmarried men, commencing after the expiry of the 26 weeks referred to above, may also be made by the Admiralty or War Office after considering the recommendations of the Local Old Age Pensions' Committee in accordance with Regulations made as in paragraph 7.

Paragraph 7 is the one that gives, as an example of those to whom pensions may be increased, a widow who is "incapacitated for work."

Does this mean that unless she is "incapacitated for work," according to the Government's view of her, a soldier's mother who was partially or wholly maintained by him before the war must be left penniless just 26 weeks after his death? Does it mean that the unmarried mother and her children lose their allowances 26 weeks after their father dies, because their mother is not "incapacitated for work?"

Whatever these paragraphs are supposed to mean, one thing is certain, there can be no security whatsoever for the dependents unless the terms are registered in black and white. The experience of the past weeks have proved this most abundantly. Almost every borough in the country has been administering the Prince of Wales's Fund on different lines, the very Ward Committees in the same borough have differed in their treatment of the cases they have had to visit. And after the war is over, with seasons of bad trade that will come upon us, and the heavy burden of war taxes, that will have to be borne, without any bursts of patriotic enthusiasm to make them seem lighter, the bereaved dependents in numberless cases will go to the wall, unless their position is made secure now.

If in this England of ours the system of sweating women wage earners were not so universally established, there would be less reason to urge this point so strenuously as we now must, but, in any case, the elderly women, the children, and the mothers of little children would have a claim upon the nation that nothing could alter or explain away.

The pensions for totally disabled seamen, marines and soldiers are to be 16s. 6d. for a married man without children, and 14s. a week for an unmarried man (a wife's allowance is, therefore, 2s. 6d.). "These amounts may be increased at the discretion of the authorities, according to the number of dependents and other circumstances up to a maximum of 23s." What does "other circumstances" mean? We do not like the phase. These allowances will be in addition to benefits under the National Insurance Act.

The White Paper also recapitulates and amplifies the regulations already issued in regard to the separation allowances.

The wives of seamen marines and naval reservists are to have separation allowances from 6s. a week to 9s. a week according to the husband's rank. The children, whether their father be an ordinary seaman, an able seamen, or a warrant officer are to have 2s. a week for the eldest, 2s. a week for the second, and 1s. a week for each of the others. Motherless children are to have 3s. a week. All this is provided the husband makes an allotment of at least 20s. a month. If a man be careless towards his family the Government will let them starve.

In regard to dependent relatives other than wives and children, one of these will have 6s. to 9s. like a wife, the others *may* receive allowances as though they had been children, provided the sailor makes an allotment.

If Active Service men allot as much as they did before the War, the Government will add half as much again. If Reservists will allot half what they contributed to their dependents before the War, the Government will add the other half. But in neither case will the Government assist in raising allowances above the limits already set forth. If the Allotment decreases the Government allowance will decrease, and if the allotment decreases below 20s. a month the Government allowance will cease.

An unmarried wife who has been entirely dependent on a seaman or marine, with his children in her charge, will receive the separation allowance to which a legally married wife and her children are entitled, "*provided the Old Age Pension Committee of the district where she lives is satisfied that the woman was entirely dependent for her maintenance upon him for a reasonable period prior to mobilization or entry.*"

If the woman has taken in a little washing or sewing, or has gone out charing a day or two each week to help the man to keep the home going more easily, she and her family will be refused an allowance and plunged into destitution. What a cruel topsy-turvey world it is that allows a woman to be punished for working!

But that provision must be changed!

The allowances to soldiers' wives and children are well known, but the white paper which has just been issued contains these words:—

"An extra 3s. 6d. a week will be payable to London families in certain circumstances."

What are these circumstances? Mr. Asquith promised that the 3s. 6d. extra for soldiers' wives and families living in London without question. The introduction of those words "certain circumstances" is a grave breach of faith!

No, the Government schemes will not do! We must all of us return to the charge and again demand the £1 a week as the minimum standard of comfort for a household, with the addition of 5s. a week for each child, both as pension and separation allowance.

We must get the mean and vexatious provisions which surround the grants of pensions and separation allowances swept away.

Unmarried wives and their children must have the maintenance allowances *on the same terms* as those who have the protection of the letter of the law.

The soldiers encamped in this country must have proper arrangements made for them: washing and other necessaries, good and sufficient food, and a money allowance large enough to make it unnecessary for them either to reduce the allotments made to their wives, or to write to their wives to send them money back.

The hardships to which the families of men who are in training, but are still sleeping at home are subjected, must be put an end to. The same allowances must be made to them as to those whose husbands are at the front, as well as a food allowance for the man himself. The War Office must provide the equipment and not expect Territorials to buy boots, shirts, holdalls, etc., out of their slender earnings.

Free passes on the railway to see a dangerously wounded soldier, must not be restricted to one relative only. The ignominious spying and supervision for soldiers' wives and mothers must be abolished. Such insult must not be added to the injury of losing husband or son.

But whilst we are making this demand for the dependents of the soldier or the sailor, we must remember also the women wage earners. Are we to rest content with the miserable wage of 10s. a week for the women employed in the Queen's workrooms? Are we to rest content with the 1s. a day of six hours work for the girls?

£1 for a week of woman's labour is little enough! We must demand it alike for the women on all work subsidised out of public funds and for the women employed by Government contractors who are so busy and prosperous just now. No Government contractor ought to be allowed to employ women for less than this really meagre wage, which should form a minimum to be raised as soon as the worker becomes skilled.

Will the *Daily Citizen* and the many labour organisations that have supported it in the £1 a week campaign for the soldier's and sailors' dependents, take up also this £1 a week campaign for women workers?

Indeed we hope so, for the need is urgent. It is a disgrace to us all that women should be employed for less. It is a disgrace to us all that work should be offered as a "charity" and paid for at lower rates.

Parliament is sitting now and we must demand from it that it shall take the responsibility of providing work for the unemployed women, who are most numerous, and also the unemployed men. We must demand that Parliament shall leave the workers who have been rendered workless by the War, neither to the beggarly little Queen's fund, nor to the parsimonious and degrading doles of food tickets of the Prince of Wales's fund. We must demand that Parliament shall find useful productive work for them at a living wage.

It is useless for Parliament to refer the workless to the Unemployed Workman Act, with its sweated pittances, which in West Ham, for instance, reach a maximum of 13s. 6d. a week for a family, and its Distress Committees' regulations, which bar out the very vast majority of the applicants. This is clearly proved by the Central (Unemployed) Body for London's own figures published on page 140.

With the terrible housing conditions that are destroying the physique of our children, with numbers of our schools condemned as unsuitable, and insanitary, with the possibility of a famine threatening us, there is work indeed for our people to do, and if it be objected that they are unskilled there is the more need to begin their training without delay.

And whilst we are considering the question of food, we must insist that tnat the Government shall control the food supply. Unceasingly, too, and untiringly too, we women must work for and demand our Vote!

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

Mr. Bernard Shaw, lecturing at Kingsway Hall, said that in spite of our military achievements there was an enemy he was afraid was going to beat us in the long run. That was the War Office, which was 50 years behind the times, and could not get it out of its head that a soldier was a drunken rascal and that his wife was a drunken slut.

The Registrar General, Somerset House, announces that in the case of evidence of marriage or birth being required by the Naval or Military authorities in connection with separation allowance, it is not necessary for private persons to incur the expense of obtaining certificates. Particulars which are needed by the War Office may be sent by the persons applying for separation orders to Somerset House to be verified, and when they have been certified as correct by Somerset House will be accepted by the War Office instead of the usual certificates. Letters containing particulars to be verified at Somerset House need not be stamped.

DISTRICT REPORTS.

BOW AND BROMLEY.

Organiser—Mrs. WATKINS.
321 Roman Road, Bow, E.

Who will help with the stall on Saturdays from 3 to 6? Won't some one take a collecting box once a week outside a Railway Station or Theatre queue. Also there are lots of dolls to be dressed for the children's party. With so much work being done by our Federation there is naturally always a shortage of funds, for expenses grow weekly, so we do badly need volunteers for selling the *Dreadnought* so that it can be self-supporting, and collectors with boxes to take a stand either Sundays or week-evenings wherever there might be a crowd.

***Dreadnoughts* sold week ending Nov. 7:—**
Bow and Bromley 358.
Mrs. Payne, 75.
Mrs. Watkins, 69.

DISTRIBUTED.

Mrs. Knudson, 175; Mrs. Connell and Mrs. Moore, 250; Mrs. Savoy, 250; Mrs. Carlisle, 200; Mrs. Morris, 200; Mrs. Clarke, 200; Mrs. Mantle, 200; Mrs. Pascoe, 100; Mrs. Lake, 100.

POPLAR.

DREADNOUGHT *Secretary*, Mrs. BIRD,
20 Railway Street.

Distress Secretary, Mrs. DRAKE.

Good meetings have been held this week. Many thanks to Mrs. Walker for taking meeting on Tuesday evening. I am sure it will be a great help if any Members are asked to volunteer for the *Dreadnought*. If they will come into the office any day we can always find them something to do. Remember that on Thursday evening's a sewing class is held for dressing dolls, in connection with the children's party at Christmas.

The stall was started again in Chrisp St., on Friday and Saturday last, and proved very satisfactory—21 and 34 *Dreadnoughts* being sold. Members, please rally round and help.

101 *Dreadnoughts* sold week ending Nov. 6, Mrs. Schlette, 71; in office, 30. Distributed—Mrs. Schlette and helper 700, Mrs. Neuss 150, Mrs. Govins 100, Mrs. Bertram 150, Mrs. Garland 200.

SOUTH WEST HAM.

Hon. Sec.—MRS. DAISY PARSONS,
94 Ravenscroft Road.

Organiser: Miss MARY PHILLIPS,
Centre for Tidal Basin and Custom House—14 Butchers' Road.

The efforts of members this week are being concentrated on working up the Custom House School Meeting, which takes place to-night (Friday). It is Miss Pankhurst's first visit to the district, and we want to give her a warm welcome. All have worked well. The expense of handbills has been saved by everybody setting to work to type, jelly, and cyclostyle notices. Miss Ganty has done over 600, Miss Grimes 500, and others have also helped.

In connection with Distress work, it is felt that pressure ought to be brought to bear on the Distress Committee to make them deal more effectively with the unemployment amongst women. Members are asked to bring particulars of any cases that come to their notice to the Organiser, also cases of sweating by Government contractors.

***Dreadnoughts* sold last week, 134.**
Distributed—Mrs. Brown, Miss Penn, Mrs. Greenleaf, Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Savill, Mrs. Stephens, Mrs. Parsons, 500.

HACKNEY.

Secretary—Miss YOUNG,
100 Greenwood Road, Dalston, N.E.

Thanks to Mrs. Drake for speaking at Lesbia Road, and to Mrs. Schlette for taking the chair last Monday evening. Will Members note—Open-air meetings start at 8 o'clock instead of 8.30. Indoor meetings held every Tuesday, at 30 Churchill Rd., at 3 o'clock for women only. Many thanks to Mrs. Walsh for taking the meetings.

Will Members kindly make this meeting known to their friends.

LIMEHOUSE.

Open-air meetings held corner of Coutts Rd., Tuesday evenings at 8 o'clock. Indoor meetings are held every Thursday afternoon at 2.30 in the Deacon's Vestry, Congregational Church, Burdett Rd. A Social will be held in the Upper Hall, Congregational Church, on Thursday, Nov. 26th, at 7.30 p.m., admission 3d. Members are asked to help to make this a success. Tickets on sale at 400 Old Ford Rd., or Women's Hall, Railway St., Poplar, or from Mrs. Connell, 82 Turners Rd., Burdett Rd.

OTHER EAST LONDON SOCIETIES.

NORTH LONDON M. P. U.

Hon. Sec.: MR. H. G. EVERETT.
19 St. Thomas Road, Finsbury Park.

A very enthusiastic member's meeting was held on Friday, November 6th. The following resolution was unanimously carried:—"That this, the North London Branch of the M. P. U., calls upon the Government, as an act of supreme justice and necessity, immediately and without discussion to pass into law a measure enfranchising women on the same terms as men, in the same way that they have passed many war emergency measures." Many thanks are due to Miss Kirby for so kindly speaking for us on Sunday. Meeting next Sunday in Finsbury Park at 3.30 p.m. Gratefully acknowledged, Mr. Franklin 1s., Mr. Hersey 1s.

MORE ABOUT THE QUEEN'S WORKROOMS.

Employment may not be given to wives who were not wage-earners before war broke out, however much they need it. The weekly earnings must not exceed 10s. a week, "on the other hand" says the latest official circular, "in some cases it may be desirable to keep the weekly wage below 10s." We wonder how any sane human being can think that it is ever "desirable" to pay any adult woman less than 10s. a week!

Girls between 16 and 18 are to be employed at 1s. a day of 6 hours—2d. an hour! If these girls are already skilled workers and have earned *more than 3d. an hour*, it is graciously permitted that they may be paid 3d. an hour but not more! This is indeed bolstering up the sweating system with a will! Forewomen of grades 1, 2, and 3, who are to be paid 32s., 28s., and 25s. respectively. Assistant forewomen of grades 1, 2, and 3, are to get 22s., 20s., and 18s. a week. We are not told what principle is to determine the grading—perhaps that is a secret. Forewomen and assistant forewomen are to be chosen who have had experience of controlling women and girls. They are each to have charge of 40 or 50 workers.

The organisation and management of the workrooms is to be "vested in a woman's employment sub-committee of the Local Representative Committee *which must be appointed by and be responsible to the Local Representative Committee.*" It must not be called together solely by the Mayor or Mayoress, as was done in Poplar. "Representatives of various bodies concerned in the prevention or relief of distress should be included on the sub-committee."

"The Queen's fund Committees, often known in towns as Mayoresses' Committees are appointed for the sole purpose of collecting funds. It is not their duty in addition to devise or bring into operation schemes for providing employment. No doubt in many cases, some of the members of the Queen's fund Committee will also be members of the Women's sub-Committee. But the functions of the two organisations must be kept distinct."

The Mayor of Poplar should not miss this last point!

IMPORTANT.

The *Morning Post* states that work for 1,000 dressmakers and others has just been placed with the Central Committee for Women's Employment.

We want to know what wages the women employed on this order are to be paid.

The Manchester, Salford and District Women's Trade and Labour Council have passed the following resolutions:—

"That this Council protest against the wage of 3d. an hour, or 10s. a week, as a maximum wage for women working in workrooms in connection with Queen Mary's Fund. This wage is below the minimum fixed by the Trade Board in the clothing trade, and is not only far below the amount earned by a skilled operative in any trade whatsoever, but it is less than the market rate for the ordinary worker in the tailoring and shirt-making trades.

"They view the fixing of this very low maximum as an industrial disaster for women, as the money standard crystallised by the workshops under the National Fund is bound to have its effect on the rates given by private employers.

"Ten shillings a week cannot be considered a living wage, and the Council desire to point out that other Societies engaged in relief work are paying better rates. For example, in one case 4d. an hour is being given, and in another 10s. has been made the minimum, the maximum in this case being £1.

"It seems disastrous that the wages under the National Fund should undercut, not only the ordinary rates of private employers, but the wages given by private Committees engaged in the same kind of relief work."

"That this Council views with dismay the proposed revival of the Contagious Diseases Act in Plymouth. They protest against any attempt to bring back either these Acts or the principle underlying them into this country, either by Act of Parliament or Administrative Order, as they have been proved to be as futile for the protection of men against disease, as they are outrageous to the liberty and ordinary human rights of women."

EVA GORE BOOTH, } *Secs.*
SARAH DICKENSON, }

A MAXIMUM WAGE OF 7s. 6d. A WEEK IN WEST HAM.

To the Editor of the
WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT.

It is claimed by the West Ham Distress Committee that there is less unemployment than usual amongst men owing to the large number who have enlisted. Actual *recent* figures seem unobtainable, but from last year's report it would appear that out of 2,999 men applying, work was found for only 1,029. The usual complement of about 60 men are at the Farm Colony at South Ockendon. This Colony was started under the Unemployed Workmen's Act (1905), and s subsidised by grants from the Local Government Board. The same applies to the relief work at Wanstead Flats, which is carried on during each winter, and at which there are now about 150 men. Ten shillings weekly is allowed to wives of men at the Farm Colony, 12s. for wife and one child, and 13s. 6d.—a munificent maximum—for wife with two or any greater number of children up to the age of 15. Labourers on the Flats live at home, and are paid 6d. an hour.

For women, the workroom run every winter by the Canning Town Women's Settlement, and previously subsidised by the Distress Committee is this year subsidised through that body by a grant from the Prince of Wales's fund. Out of 165 applicants, 38 were given work there last year. There are now about 50. An additional workroom is also opened for North West Ham. To this grant is applied the condition that no girl under 18 must be employed—a condition against which the Distress Committee has unavailingly protested. Threepence an hour is paid in these workrooms, but the hours are limited to 5 per day, so that the most a worker can earn is 7s. 6d. per week!

The National Relief Fund refers civil cases to the Distress Committee for investigation, but the rule that doles are given only to those in want directly through the war is rigidly enforced, though not with the good-will of the Distress Committee.

MARY PHILLIPS.

A visitor to one of the Queen's workrooms in Birkenhead, has reported that: "The walls are softly tinted with blue, while bowls of roses supply bright colour and fragrance. Above all, the workers look happy in their industry."

Happy on a maximum wage of 10s. a week!

A working woman says: I suppose they think the roses'll feed 'em!"

HARDLY WORTH WHILE APPLYING.

Some interesting figures have come to hand relating to the men and women who have applied for work to the Central (Unemployed) Body between July 1st and November 7th this year. They lead one to believe that the rules of that Body are framed with the intention of excluding as many people as possible from benefiting under the Act of Parliament which established it.

Of 357 male applicants, 52 (*i.e.* 14½ per cent.) have been provided with work. Of the remainder 211 cases were not even considered by the Central Body. The analysis of these cases indicates some of the reasons for rejection: 20 had a "weak work record," in seven cases there was an "unsatisfactory reply from past employers" (who may have had a private grudge to satisfy), four are their "own masters" (why this is a disqualification it is hard to imagine, unless it be that the presumption of a working man's setting up for himself deserves punishment), six are "unfit," 49 found work for themselves after registering.

Of the 146 who were sent on to the Central Body for consideration, besides the 52 who have been given work, 20 found work for themselves. 26 are "waiting offer of work" (and presumably starving in the meantime), 24 are "waiting the decision of the Central Body," and four have been "rejected." The majority of the applicants were married men or widowers—only 18 were single.

Of the women, on the other hand, more than half are single. The total number of applicants for the same period was 311—184 single, 93 widows, 34 married women. Only 71 were recommended for the consideration of the Central Committee, and of these 30 (*i.e.*, less than ten per cent. of the total applicants) have been given work. Fortunately 81 have found work for themselves, but this only brings up the number of those working to 111, and the reasons for the non-employment of the other 200 are thoroughly unsatisfactory. 23 are marked "unsuitable," and as the "unfit owing to illness" are in another section, we conclude that the 23 have failed in some other way to come up to the standard of "suitability" fixed by men for women who are asking, not charity, but to be allowed to earn their own living, eight are "out of work through own fault" (we wonder if this includes women who refuse to work for a sweated wage, or those who throw up their work on account of the insults of male overlookers), eight are "married with able-bodied husbands," two are "unsatisfactory," two "refused to answer questions," and one "would not allow inspection," 23 are "awaiting references from past employers."

What a shameful mockery of cruel mismanagement this is!

A DEFENCE OF MILITANCY.

"The free and full self-development which—to ourselves—is the well-spring and life-breath of national existence, that free self-development is the one capital offence in the code of those who have made force their supreme divinity, and upon its altars they are prepared to sacrifice both the gathered fruits and the potential germs of the unfettered human spirit. I use this language advisedly.

This is not merely a material, it is also a spiritual conflict. Upon its issue everything that contains the promise of hope, that leads to emancipation and a fuller liberty for the millions who make up the mass of mankind, will be found sooner or later to depend."

This is not an extract from a Suffrage speech, it is Mr. Asquith at the Guildhall in September of this year. Why can he understand in a European conflict a motive to which he is deaf when it explains the fight of women for the vote?

OUR CO-OPERATIVE BOOT FACTORY.

We have already received quite a number of orders for our co-operative boot factory. The workers will be paid, the men the usual trade union rate and the women, either the recognised rate for the work they are usually engaged in, or, if the usual rate does not reach this standard, 5d. an hour or £1 a week. They will also share out the additional profits at stated intervals.

We can thoroughly recommend the boots which will be made at our co-operative factory. Mr. Payne, who is our manager, has made boots and shoes for many members and officials of the Federation, and these have always beaten the record for wear and comfort. Price list to suit all buyers on application. We make hand-sewn and hand sew-round boots and shoes, special "Sanitary" boots and shoes, and "Natural" shoes for children, as well as boots and shoes of all the cheaper kinds.

Appeals are being made for boots and shoes to send to the Refugees' Committee, Kean Street, Aldwych. If those who propose to do this would order boots and shoes to be made at the East London Federation's Co-operative Factory, they would be also helping to provide work for their unemployed countrymen and women in East London. Price lists may be had on application to the Shoemaking Secretary, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

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